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Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 187934

ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY STEDMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, EFIN, SHUM

SUBJECT: ARA WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS AUGUST 3-8, 1977

SUMMARY: OFFICIAL TRAVELERS WERE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT ARA DURING THE PAST WEEK, WITH GREAT FOCUS OF ATTENTION NATURALLY ON AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND ON PENDING DEVELOPMENTS IN THE PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATIONS. THE PRESIDENT ANNOUNCED HIS PROPOSALS FOR DEALING WITH THE UNDOCUMENTED ALIEN PROBLEM. WE HELD A PRODUCTIVE ROUND OF ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS WITH TRINIDAD. THE BOGOTA SUMMIT SEEMS TO HAVE SATISFIED THE PARTICIPANTS. WORK ON FY 1979 SECURITY ASSISTANCE BUDGET IS WELL ADVANCED. THE SECRETARY HAS GIVEN US HIS TENTATIVE DATES FOR HIS UNGA ATTENDANCE.
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1. ON THE ROAD -- WITH ANDY, TERRY, PATT, DICK, GUS, LESTER, AL, SOL, ELSWORTH ... YOU HAVE NO DOUBT NOTICED THAT THE TEMPO OF TRAVEL THROUGHOUT ARA HAS INTENSIFIED DURING THE PAST WEEKS. UN AMBASSADOR YOUNG IS FOLLOWING UP ON MRS. CARTER'S SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO THE AREA, CONCENTRATING ON THE CARIBBEAN BASIN. HIS FIRST STOP, IN JAMAICA, WENT

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WELL, EVEN THOUGH IN ONE MEETING WITH JAMAICAN STUDENTS HE WAS BESEIGED WITH NUMEROUS POINTED AND EVEN HOSTILE QUESTIONS. IN MEXICO, THE PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE ON UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS (SEE BELOW) ATTRACTED THE MOST PRESS

AND PUBLIC ATTENTION.

2. TERRY TODMAN WAS IN DENVER AUGUST 9 TO SPEAK TO THE DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY. HE RETURNS TO THE DEPARTMENT AUGUST 10 TO FINISH PREPARATIONS FOR HIS TRIP TO ARGENTINA, PARAGUAY, URUGUAY AND CHILE AND LEAVES AUGUST 11.

3. IN THE MEANTIME, HUMAN RIGHTS COORDINATOR PATT DERIAN HAS BEEN VISITING IN ARA GETTING A FIRST-HAND VIEW OF THE SITUATION AND EXPLAINING OUR HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY.

4. DICK ARELLANO RETURNED AUGUST 8 FROM A TRIP TO TRINIDAD (SEPARATE ITEM). CODELS WOLFE, YATRON, AND HOLLINGS ARE COMPLETING PREPARATIONS FOR THEIR VISITS TO THE AREA AND ARE GETTING UNDER WAY. AMBASSADORS SOL LINOWITZ AND ELLSWORTH BUNKER TRAVELLED TO PANAMA AUGUST 7, AMID A GROWING SENSE OF PUBLIC EXPECTANCY THAT A BREAK-THROUGH MAY HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED AND THAT AN AGREEMENT CAN BE SIGNED. HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEMBER ALLARD LOWENSTEIN IS VISITING CHILE, PERU AND COLUMBIA, BUT HE HAD TO DEFER A STOP IN BRAZIL AFTER THE BRAZILIAN GOVERN-
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MENT REFUSED POLITELY TO HAVE HIM VISIT AT THIS TIME.

5. ALIENS -- PRESIDENT CARTER ANNOUNCED AT AN AUGUST 4 PRESS CONFERENCE THAT HE WAS PROPOSING A SERIES OF ACTIONS TO DEAL WITH THE UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS IN THE U.S. THE PRESIDENT HOPES FOR SPEEDY ACTION. LEGISLATION WILL BE INTRODUCED BY CONGRESSMAN RODINO IN THE HOUSE AND SENATORS EASTLAND AND KENNEDY IN THE SENATE. CONGRESSMAN EILBERG HAS PROMISED TO HOLD HEARINGS PROMPTLY.

6. THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSED ACTIONS WOULD:

--MAKE UNLAWFUL THE HIRING OF UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS, WITH ENFORCEMENT BY THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AGAINST THOSE EMPLOY-ERS WHO ENGAGE IN A "PATTERN OR PRACTICE" OF SUCH HIRING. PENALTIES WOULD BE CIVIL--INJUNCTIONS AND FINES OF $1000 PER UNDOCUMENTED ALIEN HIRED.

--INCREASE SIGNIFICANTLY THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT AND THE FEDERAL FARM LABOR CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION ACT, TARGETED TO AREAS WHERE HEAVY UNDOCU-MENTED ALIEN HIRINGS OCCUR.

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--ADJUST THE IMMIGRATION STATUS OF UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS
WHO HAVE RESIDED IN THE U.S. CONTINUOUSLY FROM BEFORE
JANUARY 1, 1970, TO THE PRESENT AND WHO APPLY WITH THE

IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE (INS) FOR PERMANENT
RESIDENT ALIEN STATUS; CREATE A NEW IMMIGRATION CATEGORY
OF TEMPORARY RESIDENT ALIEN FOR UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS WHO
HAVE RESIDED IN THE U.S. SINCE BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1977;
MAKE NO STATUS CHANGE AND ENFORCE THE IMMIGRATION LAW
AGAINST THOSE UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS ENTERING THE U.S. AFTER
JANUARY 1, 1977.

--SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO CONTROL
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THE SOUTHERN U.S. BORDER AND OTHER ENTRY POINTS, IN ORDER
TO PREVENT ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION.

-- PROMOTE CONTINUED COOPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENTS
WHICH ARE MAJOR SOURCES OF UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS, IN AN
EFFORT TO IMPROVE THEIR ECONOMIES AND THEIR CONTROLS OVER
ALIEN SMUGGLING RINGS.

7. CONSULTATIONS WITH TRINIDAD. AS PART OF THE ADMINIS-
TRATION'S CONTINUING EMPHASIS ON CARIBBEAN AFFAIRS, AN
ELEVEN-PERSON TEAM HEADED BY DICK ARELLANO VISITED TRINI-
DAD AND TOBAGO FOR CONSULTATIONS AUGUST 2-6. WE WERE
ABLE TO RESPOND ON SHORT NOTICE TO PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS'
REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS AS FOLLOW-UP TO THE SECRETARY'S
RECENT VISIT. THE TRINIDADIANS DEVELOPED AN AGENDA
COVERING ENERGY, FINANCE, TRADE AND TECHNOLOGY. THEY
PLACED EMPHASIS ON PLANS FOR AN IRON AND STEEL PLANT AND
A POSSIBLE LNG FACILITY AND WERE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED
IN ACCESS TO U.S. FINANCING, TECHNOLOGY, AND MARKETS. WE
INDICATED THAT DECISIONS ON EXIM FINANCING MUST TAKE INTO
ACCOUNT, AMONG OTHER FACTORS, THE EFFECT ON U.S. EMPLOYMENT
AND ON THE COMPETITIVE POSITION OF U.S. INDUSTRY. OUR
INTEREST IN TRINIDADIAN LNG WILL DEPEND IN PART ON PRICE
CONSIDERATIONS. WHILE WE DO NOT FORESEE THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A FORMAL BILATERAL CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM, FOLLOW-UP
DISCUSSIONS ARE EXPECTED IN OCTOBER.

8. BOGOTA SUMMIT. ALTHOUGH THE STATUS OF THE PANAMA
CANAL NEGOTIATIONS WAS THE CENTERPIECE OF THE SUMMIT,
THERE WERE ALSO DISCUSSIONS ON A COFFEE STABILIZATION
FUND AGREEMENT AND THE UK-GUATEMALA DISPUTE OVER BELIZE.
COSTA RICAN FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO ANNOUNCED ON HIS
RETURN TO SAN JOSE THAT THREE HOURS HAD BEEN SPENT ON
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THE LATTER SUBJECT, AND THE CONSENSUS WAS THAT THE CONFLICT SHOULD BE RESOLVED PEACEFULLY.

9. WORK ON THE FY 1979 SECURITY ASSISTANCE BUDGET WAS COMPLETED AT THE COUNTRY OFFICER LEVEL AUGUST 5, AND THE FRONT OFFICE NOW IS ENGAGED IN "RANK-ORDERING" THE ZBB

DECISION PACKAGES FOR SUBMISSION TO PM. PM WILL IN TURN RANK-ORDER THE SUBMISSIONS FROM THE BUREAUS INTO ONE LIST FOR REVIEW BY THE SECRETARY. AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, THE PROCESS REQUIRES DIFFICULT DECISIONS ALL ALONG THE LINE. AS PART OF THE PLANNING FOR THIS PROCESS, WE DECIDED THAT WE WOULD MAKE NO ZBB SUBMISSIONS FOR COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE FORMALLY ANNOUNCED THEIR REJECTION OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE.

10. SECRETARY'S ATTENDANCE AT UNGA. THE SECRETARY PLANS TO BE IN NEW YORK FOR THE UNGA FROM SEPTEMBER 26 TO OCTOBER 7. IN ADDITION TO THE REGULAR BILATERALS HE ALSO INTENDS TO HOST A LUNCHEON FOR LA AMBASSADORS AND FOREIGN MINISTERS. CHRISTOPHER

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